

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (original) A method for operating a user equipment (UE) employing a CDMA technique, the method comprising:

- (a) combining a plurality of spread spectrum data signals into a combined signal having a fluctuating power level corresponding to the data signals;
- (b) modulating the combined signal to produce an RF signal;
- (c) measuring average power of the combined signal over a selected time period;
- (d) adaptively limiting the combined signal power to a calculated level based at least in part on said measured power; and
- (e) transmitting the RF signal.

2. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein step (c) further includes measuring average power of the RF signal over a selected time period.

3. (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising amplifying the RF signal prior to transmission.

4. (original) The method of claim 3 wherein step (c) further includes measuring average power of the amplified RF signal over the selected time period.

5. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein step (c) further includes measuring power based on a variance of the combined signal.

6. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein step (c) further includes measuring power based on a standard deviation of the combined signal.

7. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein step (d) is omitted when a given number of active users is present.

8. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein step (c) is omitted in response to a transmission of short codes.

9. (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
amplifying the RF signal by a gain factor prior to transmission; and
adjusting the gain factor in response to the calculated power level and predetermined gain characteristics of the amplifier.

10 – 16. (canceled)

17. (original) A method for operating a user equipment (UE) employing a CDMA technique, the method comprising:

- (a) combining a plurality of spread spectrum data signals into a combined signal having a fluctuating power level corresponding to the data signals;
- (b) modulating the combined signal to produce an RF signal;
- (c) measuring the power of the combined signal over a selected time period;
- (d) adaptively limiting the combined signal power to a selected level based at least in part on said measured power; and
- (e) transmitting the RF signal.